

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NRC-05 COME-00 EB-08 ACDA-12
SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 EA-10 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NASA-01 NEA-11 NSAE-00 OIC-02
SP-02 PA-01 DOE-15 CEQ-01 OES-07 SS-15 NSCE-00
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FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1588
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T USUN NEW YORK 02135

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM, UN
SUBJECT: FRENCH SATELLITE VERIFICATION PROPOSAL

REF: A. USUN 2116 B. USUN 02079

1. SUMMARY. THIS MESSAGE SUMMARIZES FRENCH POSITION
ON A SATELLITE VERIFICATION AGENCY, REACTION OF THE
SSOD AND CONTAINS SOME SSOD DELEGATION RECOMMENDATIONS.
END SUMMARY.

2. REFTEL A. CONTAINS RELEVANT TEXT OF PRESIDENT
GISCARD'S MAY 25 SSOD ADDRESS.

3. IN BILATERAL US-FRENCH CONSULTATIONS (REFTEL B) US
REPS HAVE EXPLAINED US OBJECTIONS TO FRENCH PROPOSAL.
US HAS SOUGHT TO INDUCE FRENCH TO MODIFY THEIR DRAFT
LANGUAGE IN THE SSOD PROGRAM OF ACTION ON THIS ISSUE.
FRENCH DRAFT NOW REQUEST, SECRETARY GENERAL "TO SEEK
THE VIEWS OF MEMBER STATES WITH RESPECT TO THE FUNCTIONS
AND STRUCTURE OF SUCH AN AGENCY AND TO SUBMIT THESE
VIEWS AND AN ANALYSIS THEREOF TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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AT ITS THIRTY THIRD SESSION." US SUGGESTED FRENCH
AMEND TEXT TO INCLUDE STUDY OF "FEASIBILITY" OF SUCH
AN AGENCY. FRENCH ARE NOT WILLING TO MAKE THIS AMEND-
MENT.

4. UK REP TOLD US THAT IN BILATERAL WITH FRENCH DELE-
GATION MAY 23 A FRENCH REP EXPRESSED SURPRISE AT

STRONG US OPPOSITION TO SATELLITE VERIFICATION AGENCY PROPOSAL. HE COMMENTED THAT US WILL HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT, IN THE ABSENCE OF AN INTERNATIONAL AGENCY, THERE WILL EITHER BE A PROLIFERATION OF VERIFICATION SATELLITES AMONG OTHER NATIONS OR, AT SOME POINT, US WILL HAVE TO FACE UN IMPOSED RESTRAINTS ON THEM. (UK REP SAID HE REMARKED THAT HE DID NOT THINK US WOULD BE TOO DAUNTED BY THESE PROSPECTS.)

5. NON-ALIGNED REACTION AT SSOD TO FRENCH PROPOSAL HAS BEEN GENERALLY FAVORABLE. THEY SEE INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION AGENCY AS A MEANS OF INSTITUTIONALIZING UN INVOLVEMENT IN THE DISARMAMENT PROCESS. IF ISSUE CAME TO A VOTE IT WOULD BE SUPPORTED BY MAJORITY OF SSOD PARTICIPANTS.

6. DELEGATION COMMENT. IN VIEW OF PROMINENT PLACEMENT ' OF THIS PROPOSAL IN PRESIDENT GISCARD'S ADDRESS AND PAST UNWILLINGNESS OF FRENCH TO MODIFY THEIR DRAFT LANGUAGE IN THE PROGRAM OF ACTION, DEL BELIEVES THERE IS NO RPT NO CHANCE THAT THE FRENCH WILL DROP THIS IDEA. SHORT OF HIGH LEVEL DEMARCHE DURING GISCARD VISIT TO WASHINGTON WE SEE NO FURTHER ACTION WHICH MIGHT CONCEIVABLY BUDGE FRENCH FROM MODIFYING THEIR LANGUAGE IN PROGRAM OF ACTION.

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